



Ed Pops Davenport Park to Open August 26, 2006

The North Long Beach community is invited to celebrate the opening of Ed Pops Davenport Park, 2910 East 57th Way, near the east side of Paramount Boulevard, between Candlewood Street and South Street, on Saturday, August 26, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Val Lerch, 9th District Councilmember said, This new park will make a positive difference in the lives of North Long Beach residents by providing wonderful open space for people of all ages to relax and play. I am very pleased to have this park named for Corporal Ed Pops Davenport, a man who made such a positive difference in our City.

The public is invited to enjoy a ribbon cutting ceremony, entertainment, refreshments and displays, including the plans for the future development of an adjoining 5-acre parcel that will expand the Park to Paramount Boulevard. The park amenities include a playground, sports field and tot lot.

This project not only cleaned-up a blighted industrial area in North Long Beach, it provides much-needed recreational open space. The 5.5-acre Ed Pops Davenport Park replaces more than twice the area of the two acres of parkland at nearby Scherer Park that was designated for the North Long Beach Police facility in 1994.

The park is named in memory of Long Beach Police Officer Ed Pops Davenport. During a distinguished 40-year career, Corporal Davenport worked numerous assignments including patrol, motors, special investigations, and was a special weapons and tactics team (SWAT) member for more than 30 years. He became a range master at the police academy in 1991 and had been providing firearm instruction, testing and maintenance. Corporal Davenport died in February 2004.

For more information about the opening of Ed Pops Davenport Park, call (562) 570-3150. For information on other activities offered by Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, call (562) 570-3100 or visit www.LBParks.org.